



Homeland
Security

Feb 27 2015

Dr. Paul Phifer, PhD
Assistant Regional Director – Ecological Services
Northeast Regional Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
300 Westgate Center Drive
Hadley, MA 01035-9589

Re: Endangered Species Act Consultation at Plum Island, New York

Dear Dr. Phifer:

We are writing to confirm our intention to continue consultation pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for the sale of Plum Island, an action that is anticipated to occur in approximately eight years. As we discussed at the meeting with the General Services Administration (GSA) in your office on February 11, GSA and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) intend to identify potential direct and indirect impacts on the four listed species at Plum Island: the Piping Plover, the Red Knot, the Roseate Tern, and the Northern Long Eared Bat. In support of that effort, FWS has agreed to provide GSA and DHS with data on the presence of the four species and the areas of use, and will also share Best Management Practices for those species. Once this data is compiled, GSA, DHS, and FWS will have additional meetings to discuss identification of potential effects and options for mitigation, as may be required. We also anticipate future meeting with the staff at the State of New York Department of Environmental Conservation as well as the Town of Southold.

We look forward to continued consultation on this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "T. Pohlman", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Dr. Teresa R. Pohlman
Executive Director
Sustainability and Environmental Programs
Department of Homeland Security